1 THE HONORABLE BRIAN A. TSUCHIDA 2 3 4 5 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 6 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT SEATTLE 7 CHRISTOPHER J. HADNAGY, an individual; No. 2:23-cv-01932-BAT 8 and SOCIAL-ENGINEER, LLC, a Pennsylvania limited liability company, SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION OF 9 MARK CONRAD IN SUPPORT OF REPLY TO PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR LEAVE Plaintiffs, TO FILE AMENDED COMPLAINT 10 v. 11 JEFF MOSS, an individual; DEF CON COMMUNICATIONS, INC., a Washington 12 corporation; and DOES 1-10; and ROE ENTITIES 1-10, inclusive, 13 Defendants. 14 I, Mark Conrad, declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of Washington State as 15 follows: 16 I am one of the attorneys representing Plaintiffs Christopher Hadnagy and Social-1. 17 Engineer, LLC. 18 2. I am over the age of 18, and competent to testify to the matters set forth herein; and 19 make this declaration of my own personal knowledge. 20 3. Attached hereto as Exhibit A is a true and correct copy of my email 21 communications with opposing counsel attempting to reach a stipulation to amend the complaint. 22 4. I interpreted this Court's Order dated March 28, 2024, as dismissing claims related 23 to Defendant Jeff Moss spreading "Injurious Falsehood" to Black Hat. I included those allegations SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION OF MARK FREY BUCK CONRAD IN SUPPORT OF REPLY TO PLAINTIFFS' 1200 FIFTH AVENUE, SUITE 1900 MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE AMENDED SEATTLE, WA 98101 COMPLAINT - Page 1 P: (206) 486-8000 F: (206) 902-9660

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in our amended complaint as factual background, understanding the Court's ruling on those claims.

- 5. I did not interpret this Court's Order dated March 28, 2024, as dismissing Jeff Moss as a defendant concerning his actions of publicizing the 2/9/22 Transparency Report and the 1/13/23 Update. See attached as Exhibit B a true and correct copy of Jeff Moss posting the Updated Transparency Report from January 13, 2023, on his personal Twitter account. Also included are postings from Jeff Moss's personal Reddit account, "DTangent" (a.k.a. Dark Tangent), providing further updates on the case. The Court did not specifically dismiss all claims against Jeff Moss and stated, "In conclusion, the Court concludes Plaintiffs have sufficiently stated claims of defamation based on Defendants' publications of the 2/9/22 Transparency Report and the 1/13/23 Update on Def Con's website."
- 6. I also did not interpret this Court's Order as changing the deadline for amending the complaint as set forth by the Order Setting Trial Date and Pretrial Schedule. Dkt. 45. Instead, I interpreted the Court's Order as offering the plaintiff an opportunity to amend the complaint for claims related to "Injurious Falsehoods by Defendant Moss to provide further facts regarding "to whom, when, and where these statements were made." Similarly, the Court also provided Plaintiff an opportunity to amend to provide more specific information as to Tortious Interference with Contractual Relations and Prospective Business Relations Claims.

I DECLARE UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON THAT THE FOREGOING IS TRUE AND CORRECT.

DATED this 22nd day of July 2024 in Seattle, Washington.

FREY BUCK.

Mark Conrad, WSBA #48135

1 **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE** 2 The undersigned certifies under the penalty of perjury according to the laws of the United 3 States and the State of Washington that on this date I caused to be served in the manner noted 4 below a copy of this document entitled SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION OF MARK CONRAD IN SUPPORT OF REPLY TO PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR LEAVE TO 5 FILE AMENDED COMPLAINT on the following individuals: 6 David Perez, WSBA #43959 7 Matthew J. Mertens (Pro Hac Vice) Lauren A. Trambley (Pro Hac Vice) 8 Perkins Coie LLP 1201 Third Avenue, Suite 4900 9 Seattle, Washington 98101 dperez@perkinscoie.com 10 mmertens@perkinscoie.com ltrambley@perkinscoie.com 11 Via USPS 12 [X] Via Electronic Mail Via Electronic Filing (CM/ECF) [] 13 14 DATED this 22nd day of July 2024 at Seattle, Washington. 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23

Exhibit A

Mark Conrad

From: Perez, David A. (Perkins Coie) < DPerez@perkinscoie.com>

Sent: Thursday, June 27, 2024 6:34 PM

To: Mark Conrad

Cc: Mertens, Matthew (Perkins Coie); Trambley, Lauren (Perkins Coie); Ted Buck;

kristofer@riklislaw.com; Lauren English

Subject: Re: Hadnagy, et al. v. Moss, et al.

Feel free to file your motion and we'll respond.

David A. Perez | Perkins Coie LLP Partner Firmwide Chair of Business Litigation 1201 Third Avenue, Suite 4900 Seattle, WA 98101-3099

p: <u>206.359.6767</u> c: 206.618.4293

e: DPerez@perkinscoie.com

http://www.perkinscoie.com/dperez

On Jun 27, 2024, at 5:50 PM, Mark Conrad <mconrad@freybuck.com> wrote:

Matt-

I understand that you do not agree with these factual assertions. However, it makes no practical difference, as these paragraphs provide factual background and the court's ruling on the claims. I am prepared to file the motion but remain hopeful that you will stipulate to avoid further motions practice. Please let me know by noon tomorrow if you are willing to stipulate.

Thanks,

Mark

Mark R. Conrad | Attorney

Frey Buck

1200 Fifth Avenue, Ste. 1900 Seattle, WA 98101 206-486-8000, Ext. 805 206-902-9660 (Fax) www.freybuck.com

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Case 2:23-cv-01932-BAT Document 51-1 Filed 07/22/24 Page 6 of 45

From: Mertens, Matthew (Perkins Coie) < MMertens@perkinscoie.com>

Sent: Thursday, June 27, 2024 4:32 PM To: Mark Conrad <mconrad@freybuck.com>

Cc: Perez, David A. (Perkins Coie)
Perez@perkinscoie.com>; Trambley, Lauren (Perkins Coie)

<LTrambley@perkinscoie.com>

Subject: RE: Hadnagy, et al. v. Moss, et al.

Mark-

It appears part of the proposed amended complaint is inconsistent with the court's dismissal order. Specifically, you've left in some factual allegations that only pertain to dismissed claims or dismissed portions of the defamation claim. They include:

- 1. Paragraph 78 of the original complaint;
- 2. Paragraph 79 of the original complaint;
- 3. The reference to "injurious falsehoods" in paragraphs 81, 82, 86, and 92 of the original complaint; and
- 4. Paragraph 94 of the original complaint.

We'd ask that you remove paragraphs 78, 79, and 94 from the original complaint; and change the references in paragraphs 81, 82, 86, and 92 of the original complaint from "Injurious Falsehoods" to "Transparency Report and Update" as you've done in the revised first cause of action and new second and third causes of action. With those changes we won't oppose your motion to amend, but reserve all rights including to file a dispositive motion in response.

Thanks,

Matt Mertens | Perkins Coie LLP

PARTNER Pronouns: He/Him/His 1120 N.W. Couch Street Tenth Floor Portland, OR 97209-4128 D. +1.503.727.2199 F. +1.503.346.2199

E. MMertens@perkinscoie.com www.perkinscoie.com/mmertens

From: Mark Conrad < mconrad@freybuck.com >

Sent: Thursday, June 27, 2024 1:11 PM

To: Mertens, Matthew (POR) < MMertens@perkinscoie.com >

Subject: RE: Hadnagy, et al. v. Moss, et al.

Matt,

An amended notice of depositions should go out today.

Please let me know your position on the amended complaint once you know.

Thanks,

Mark R. Conrad | Attorney

Frey Buck

1200 Fifth Avenue, Ste. 1900 Seattle, WA 98101

Case 2:23-cv-01932-BAT Document 51-1 Filed 07/22/24 Page 7 of 45

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From: Mertens, Matthew (Perkins Coie) < MMertens@perkinscoie.com>

Sent: Wednesday, June 26, 2024 4:58 PM **To:** Mark Conrad < mconrad@freybuck.com> **Subject:** RE: Hadnagy, et al. v. Moss, et al.

Mark, receipt confirmed, thanks. We'll very likely be back to you tomorrow on this.

Can you send around an updated NOD for July 31st this week, just so we can get that locked in? Thanks.

Matt Mertens | Perkins Coie LLP

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Portland, OR 97209-4128
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F. +1.503.346.2199
E. MMertens@perkinscoie.com
www.perkinscoie.com/mmertens

From: Mark Conrad < mconrad@freybuck.com Sent: Wednesday, June 26, 2024 9:59 AM

To: Mertens, Matthew (POR) < MMertens@perkinscoie.com >

Subject: RE: Hadnagy, et al. v. Moss, et al.

Matt,

Attached is our proposed amended complaint please let me know if your side is willing to stipulate.

Thanks,

Mark

Mark R. Conrad | Attorney

Frey Buck

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Case 2:23-cv-01932-BAT Document 51-1 Filed 07/22/24 Page 8 of 45

product and/or other privileges. If you are not the designated or intended recipient, please destroy the message without disclosing any of its contents and notify us immediately by reply email or by calling 1-206-486-8000.

From: Mark Conrad

Sent: Monday, June 24, 2024 12:32 PM

To: Mertens, Matthew (Perkins Coie) < MMertens@perkinscoie.com>

Subject: RE: Hadnagy, et al. v. Moss, et al.

Any chance your side will stipulated to amending the complaint to add a cause of action for "False Light?"

Mark R. Conrad | Attorney

Frey Buck

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From: Mertens, Matthew (Perkins Coie) < MMertens@perkinscoie.com>

Thanks, Mark—appreciate it.

Matt Mertens | Perkins Coie LLP

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F. +1.503.346.2199
E. MMertens@perkinscoie.com

www.perkinscoie.com/mmertens

From: Mark Conrad <mconrad@freybuck.com>

Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2024 3:53 PM

To: Mertens, Matthew (POR) < MMertens@perkinscoie.com >

Subject: RE: Hadnagy, et al. v. Moss, et al.

FYI- Lauren English, the paralegal on this matter, is working on finalizing our discovery responses. She was stuck in trial today but will have them sent over this evening.

Mark R. Conrad | Attorney

Case 2:23-cv-01932-BAT Document 51-1 Filed 07/22/24 Page 9 of 45

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From: Mertens, Matthew (Perkins Coie) < MMertens@perkinscoie.com>

Sent: Monday, June 17, 2024 7:26 PM

To: Mark Conrad < mconrad@freybuck.com>
Subject: RE: Hadnagy, et al. v. Moss, et al.

Mark, July 31 will work for us. Thanks again for your flexibility here. Really appreciate it.

We'll get you additional emails in production by the end of this week.

Matt Mertens | Perkins Coie LLP

PARTNER

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Portland, OR 97209-4128
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F. +1.503.346.2199
E. MMertens@perkinscoie.com
www.perkinscoie.com/mmertens

From: Mertens, Matthew (POR)

Sent: Monday, June 17, 2024 11:17 AM

To: Mark Conrad < mconrad@freybuck.com >
Subject: RE: Hadnagy, et al. v. Moss, et al.

Mark, thanks—I'm checking with Jeff now. Appreciate it.

Matt Mertens | Perkins Coie LLP

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F. +1.503.346.2199
E. MMertens@perkinscoie.com
www.perkinscoie.com/mmertens

From: Mark Conrad <<u>mconrad@freybuck.com</u>>

Sent: Monday, June 17, 2024 11:07 AM

To: Mertens, Matthew (POR) < Mertens@perkinscoie.com>

Subject: RE: Hadnagy, et al. v. Moss, et al.

Mr. Hadnagy cannot make July 23 and I'm booked on July 24. How about July 26 or July 31? Those dates work for our side.

Mark R. Conrad | Attorney

Frey Buck

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From: Mertens, Matthew (Perkins Coie) < MMertens@perkinscoie.com>

Sent: Sunday, June 16, 2024 4:58 PM

To: Mark Conrad < mconrad@freybuck.com > Subject: Re: Hadnagy, et al. v. Moss, et al.

I really appreciate the courtesies. Thanks. LMK if it's okay for Mr. Hadnagy when you know.

Matt Mertens Partner 1120 NW Couch St Fl 10 Portland, OR 97209-4128 503,727,2199

On Jun 16, 2024, at 3:47 PM, Mark Conrad <mconrad@freybuck.com> wrote:

No worries. July 23 should work for me. Our client was planning on being there so let me confirm that works for him.

Mark R. Conrad | Attorney

Frev Buck

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Case 2:23-cv-01932-BAT Document 51-1 Filed 07/22/24 Page 11 of 45

From: Mertens, Matthew (Perkins Coie) < MMertens@perkinscoie.com>

Sent: Saturday, June 15, 2024 6:10 PM
To: Mark Conrad < mconrad@freybuck.com >
Subject: RE: Hadnagy, et al. v. Moss, et al.

Mark, sorry—the 10th actually won't work for me. I jumped the gun. If we can push by a week to July 23 or 24, that would be excellent. No delay tactic intended. I'm just jammed up because some child care fell through for the week of the 15th.

Matt Mertens | Perkins Coie LLP

PARTNER

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E. MMertens@perkinscoie.com www.perkinscoie.com/mmertens

From: Mertens, Matthew (POR)

Sent: Saturday, June 15, 2024 6:06 PM

To: mconrad@freybuck.com

Subject: FW: Hadnagy, et al. v. Moss, et al.

Hey, Mark—

I'm reaching out on Jeff's deposition in July. I've just had a child care conflict arise for the week of July 15 that will be very difficult to resolve. I'm hoping that you may still have availability for the deposition on July 10th, or alternatively July 23 or 24?

Would appreciate it if you could make any of those dates work.

Thanks,

Matt Mertens | Perkins Coie LLP

PARTNER

Pronouns: He/Him/His 1120 N.W. Couch Street Tenth Floor Portland, OR 97209-4128 D. +1.503.727.2199 F. +1.503.346.2199

E. <u>MMertens@perkinscoie.com</u> www.perkinscoie.com/mmertens

From: Mark Conrad < mconrad@freybuck.com >

Sent: Monday, May 20, 2024 3:14 PM

To: Mertens, Matthew (POR) < <u>MMertens@perkinscoie.com</u>>; Amber Holmes

<aholmes@freybuck.com>; Perez, David A. (SEA) <DPerez@perkinscoie.com>; Ted Buck

<<u>tbuck@freybuck.com</u>>; Trambley, Lauren (SFO) <<u>LTrambley@perkinscoie.com</u>>

Cc: Lauren English < lenglish@freybuck.com >; Kristofer Riklis < kristofer@riklislaw.com >

Subject: RE: Hadnagy, et al. v. Moss, et al.

Let's lock in July 18 at 9am. Let me know if you have a preferred location. Thanks, Matt.

Mark R. Conrad | Attorney

Frey Buck, P.S.

1200 Fifth Avenue, Ste. 1900 Seattle, WA 98101 206-486-8000, Ext. 805 206-902-9660 (Fax) www.freybuck.com

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From: Mertens, Matthew (Perkins Coie) < MMertens@perkinscoie.com>

Sent: Friday, May 17, 2024 4:23 PM

To: Mark Conrad < mconrad@freybuck.com>; Amber Holmes < aholmes@freybuck.com>; Perez, David A. (Perkins Coie) < DPerez@perkinscoie.com>; Ted Buck < tbuck@freybuck.com>; Trambley, Lauren (Perkins

Coie) < LTrambley@perkinscoie.com>

Cc: Lauren English < ! Kristofer Riklis < kristofer@riklislaw.com>

Subject: RE: Hadnagy, et al. v. Moss, et al.

Mark, I misunderstood Mr. Moss's travel schedule. He's available in Washington State at any of the dates you indicated. Please let me know what you'd prefer.

Thanks,

Matt Mertens | Perkins Coie LLP

PARTNER

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From: Mertens, Matthew (POR)

Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2024 3:21 PM

To: Mark Conrad <mconrad@freybuck.com>; Amber Holmes <aholmes@freybuck.com>; Perez, David A.

(SEA) < <u>DPerez@perkinscoie.com</u>>; Ted Buck < <u>tbuck@freybuck.com</u>>; Trambley, Lauren (SFO)

<<u>LTrambley@perkinscoie.com</u>>

Cc: Lauren English <lenglish@freybuck.com>; Kristofer Riklis <kristofer@riklislaw.com>

Subject: RE: Hadnagy, et al. v. Moss, et al.

Quick update here. I'm in touch with Mr. Moss on availability and should have concrete dates soon.

Matt Mertens | Perkins Coie LLP

PARTNER

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E. <u>MMertens@perkinscoie.com</u> <u>www.perkinscoie.com/mmertens</u> From: Mertens, Matthew (POR)
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2024 5:51 PM

To: Mark Conrad <mconrad@freybuck.com>; Amber Holmes <aholmes@freybuck.com>; Perez, David A.

(SEA) < <u>DPerez@perkinscoie.com</u>>; Ted Buck < <u>tbuck@freybuck.com</u>>; Trambley, Lauren (SFO)

<LTrambley@perkinscoie.com>

Cc: Lauren English < lenglish@freybuck.com >; Kristofer Riklis < kristofer@riklislaw.com >

Subject: RE: Hadnagy, et al. v. Moss, et al.

Mark, I have to be honest, I was at least somewhat hoping you were itching for an in-person deposition in Singapore.

I'll check with Mr. Moss on those dates, but referring you back to my email dated April 12 (highlighted below) I don't think he's available then. My understanding is that he's traveling through Washington State en route to spending several weeks in Washington, D.C. in July. So, I think his general availability is on the front end of July (on his trip out to D.C.) and then again on the back end of July (on his trip back from D.C.).

I'll reach out to him right now for specific dates of availability in July. He's pretty responsive so I should be back to you quickly.

Thanks,

Matt Mertens | Perkins Coie LLP

PARTNER

Pronouns: He/Him/His 1120 N.W. Couch Street Tenth Floor Portland, OR 97209-4128 D. +1.503.727.2199 F. +1.503.346.2199

E. <u>MMertens@perkinscoie.com</u> <u>www.perkinscoie.com/mmertens</u>

From: Mark Conrad < mconrad@freybuck.com >

Sent: Friday, May 10, 2024 10:35 AM

To: Mertens, Matthew (POR) < MMertens@perkinscoie.com>; Amber Holmes

<a holmes@freybuck.com>; Perez, David A. (SEA) < DPerez@perkinscoie.com>; Ted Buck

<tbuck@freybuck.com>; Trambley, Lauren (SFO) <LTrambley@perkinscoie.com>

Cc: Lauren English < !english@freybuck.com; Kristofer Riklis < kristofer@riklislaw.com>

Subject: RE: Hadnagy, et al. v. Moss, et al.

Hi Matt,

While a trip to Singapore sounds enticing, I'll opt for an in-person deposition in Washington. I'm available on July 10, 11, 17, 18, with a start time of 9 am. We can conduct the dep. at a location of your choosing in Seattle. Please let me know which date and a location that works best for your side.

Thanks, Mark

Mark R. Conrad | Attorney

Frey Buck, P.S.

1200 Fifth Avenue, Ste. 1900 Seattle, WA 98101 206-486-8000, Ext. 805 206-902-9660 (Fax) www.freybuck.com

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From: Mertens, Matthew (Perkins Coie) < MMertens@perkinscoie.com>

Sent: Wednesday, May 1, 2024 5:10 PM

To: Mark Conrad < mconrad@freybuck.com; Amber Holmes < aholmes@freybuck.com; Perez, David A. (Perkins Coie) < DPerez@perkinscoie.com; Ted Buck < tbuck@freybuck.com; Trambley, Lauren (Perkins

Coie) < LTrambley@perkinscoie.com>

Cc: Lauren English < !english@freybuck.com; Kristofer Riklis < kristofer@riklislaw.com>

Subject: RE: Hadnagy, et al. v. Moss, et al.

Hey, Mark-

Mr. Moss is a resident of Washington; he also doesn't currently live there full-time. Those aren't mutually exclusive.

If you'd like to depose him in May, we can do it remotely, or we can do it in person in Singapore. If you want to depose him in person in Washington State, we can make him available in July.

Thanks,

Matt Mertens | Perkins Coie LLP

PARTNER

Pronouns: He/Him/His 1120 N.W. Couch Street Tenth Floor Portland, OR 97209-4128 D. +1.503.727.2199 F. +1.503.346.2199 E. MMertens@perkinscoie.com

E. <u>MMertens@perkinscoie.com</u> www.perkinscoie.com/mmertens

From: Mark Conrad <mconrad@freybuck.com>

Sent: Tuesday, April 30, 2024 3:17 PM

To: Mertens, Matthew (POR) < MMertens@perkinscoie.com; Amber Holmes

<a holimes@freybuck.com>; Perez, David A. (SEA) <DPerez@perkinscoie.com>; Ted Buck

<<u>tbuck@freybuck.com</u>>; Trambley, Lauren (SFO) <<u>LTrambley@perkinscoie.com</u>>

Cc: Lauren English <lenglish@freybuck.com>; Kristofer Riklis <kristofer@riklislaw.com>

Subject: RE: Hadnagy, et al. v. Moss, et al.

Hi Matt,

Case 2:23-cv-01932-BAT Document 51-1 Filed 07/22/24 Page 15 of 45

Considering the representation made to the Court that Mr. Ross is a resident of Washington, we would request his availability for an in-person deposition in Washington during May 2024. Please let me know some dates he is available.

Thanks,

Mark R. Conrad | Attorney

Frey Buck, P.S.

1200 Fifth Avenue, Ste. 1900 Seattle, WA 98101 206-486-8000, Ext. 805 206-902-9660 (Fax) www.freybuck.com

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From: Mertens, Matthew (Perkins Coie) < MMertens@perkinscoie.com>

Sent: Friday, April 12, 2024 2:43 PM

To: Amber Holmes ; Perez, David A. (Perkins Coie)

<DPerez@perkinscoie.com>; Ted Buck <tbuck@freybuck.com>; Trambley, Lauren (Perkins Coie)

<LTrambley@perkinscoie.com>

Cc: Mark Conrad <mconrad@freybuck.com>; Lauren English <lenglish@freybuck.com>; Kristofer Riklis

< kristofer@riklislaw.com>

Subject: RE: Hadnagy, et al. v. Moss, et al.

Hey, Amber-

Chiming in for David here. Jeff will be traveling through Washington State at the beginning and at the end of July, so if you want to take his deposition in person in WA, we can make him available then. If you want to do a remote deposition, I can get specific dates from him for May or June. Just let me know what your collective preference is.

Thanks,

Matt Mertens | Perkins Coie LLP

PARTNER

Pronouns: He/Him/His 1120 N.W. Couch Street Tenth Floor Portland, OR 97209-4128 D. +1.503.727.2199 F. +1.503.346.2199

E. <u>MMertens@perkinscoie.com</u> www.perkinscoie.com/mmertens

From: Amber Holmes aholmes@freybuck.com

Sent: Friday, April 12, 2024 2:27 PM

To: Perez, David A. (SEA) <<u>DPerez@perkinscoie.com</u>>; Ted Buck <<u>tbuck@freybuck.com</u>>; Mertens, Matthew (POR) <<u>MMertens@perkinscoie.com</u>>; Trambley, Lauren (SFO) <<u>LTrambley@perkinscoie.com</u>>

Case 2:23-cv-01932-BAT Document 51-1 Filed 07/22/24 Page 16 of 45

Cc: Mark Conrad <<u>mconrad@freybuck.com</u>>; Lauren English <<u>lenglish@freybuck.com</u>>; Kristofer Riklis <kristofer@riklislaw.com>

Subject: RE: Hadnagy, et al. v. Moss, et al.

David:

Circling back on the below email. Do you have any dates for the deposition of Jeff Moss?

Thank you.

Amber

Amber Holmes
<image001.jpg>
1200 Fifth Avenue, Ste. 1900
Seattle, WA 98101
(206) 487-3020
aholmes@freybuck.com
www.freybuck.com

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From: Perez, David A. (Perkins Coie) < DPerez@perkinscoie.com>

Sent: Monday, April 1, 2024 2:25 PM

To: Ted Buck < tbuck@freybuck.com>; Amber Holmes < aholmes@freybuck.com>; Mertens, Matthew (Perkins Coie) < Mertens@perkinscoie.com>; Trambley, Lauren (Perkins Coie)

<<u>LTrambley@perkinscoie.com</u>>

Cc: Mark Conrad <<u>mconrad@freybuck.com</u>>; Lauren English <<u>lenglish@freybuck.com</u>>; Kristofer Riklis <<u>kristofer@riklislaw.com</u>>

Subject: RE: Hadnagy, et al. v. Moss, et al.

Ted, those dates won't work but we'll get back to you for dates in May, and location.

David

David A. Perez | Perkins Coie LLP Partner Firmwide Chair of Business Litigation

1201 Third Avenue, Suite 4900 Seattle, WA 98101-3099

p: 206.359.6767 c: 206.618.4293

e: <u>DPerez@perkinscoie.com</u>

http://www.perkinscoie.com/dperez/

From: Ted Buck < tbuck@freybuck.com > Sent: Monday, April 01, 2024 12:07 PM

To: Perez, David A. (SEA) < <u>DPerez@perkinscoie.com</u>>; Amber Holmes < <u>aholmes@freybuck.com</u>>;

Mertens, Matthew (POR) < Mertens@perkinscoie.com; Trambley, Lauren (SFO)

<LTrambley@perkinscoie.com>

Cc: Mark Conrad < mconrad@freybuck.com; Lauren English < lenglish@freybuck.com; Kristofer Riklis

<kristofer@riklislaw.com>

Subject: RE: Hadnagy, et al. v. Moss, et al.

Greetings, David:

We would like to renew our request for dates to depose Mr. Moss. Kindly let me know if you collectively are available April 18, 23 or 24. Please also let us know if Mr. Moss is in Washington.

Thank you.

Ted Buck Frey Buck PLLC 1200 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1900 Seattle, WA 98101 206-486-8000

From: Perez, David A. (Perkins Coie) < DPerez@perkinscoie.com>

Sent: Thursday, February 8, 2024 3:20 PM

To: Amber Holmes <aholmes@freybuck.com>; Mertens, Matthew (Perkins Coie)

< <u>MMertens@perkinscoie.com</u>>; Trambley, Lauren (Perkins Coie) < <u>LTrambley@perkinscoie.com</u>>

Cc: Ted Buck < tbuck@freybuck.com >; Mark Conrad < mconrad@freybuck.com >; Lauren English

<lenglish@freybuck.com>; Kristofer Riklis <kristofer@riklislaw.com>

Subject: RE: Hadnagy, et al. v. Moss, et al.

Amber,

We're happy to work with you on a date and time for the deposition, but it won't be until after the Court rules on the pending motion to dismiss. The parties have already stipulated to stay discovery pending resolution of the MTD. Please see the attached stipulated order from the District of Nevada case. Moreover, Kris Riklis conferred last week with my colleague Matt Mertens on the joint status report due to the Court on March 1, and they reaffirmed their agreement that discovery is stayed until the Court rules on the MTD.

The deposition is currently noticed as being in-person. We request that the deposition be over video since Mr. Moss currently lives in Singapore. The parties should stipulate to this to avoid motion practice under FRCP 30(b)(4).

Best,

David

David A. Perez | Perkins Coie LLP

Partner Firmwide Chair of Business Litigation Co-Chair Real Estate Litigation

1201 Third Avenue, Suite 4900 Seattle, WA 98101-3099

p: 206.359.6767 c: 206.618.4293

e: DPerez@perkinscoie.com

http://www.perkinscoie.com/dperez/

From: Amber Holmes aholmes@freybuck.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 08, 2024 11:12 AM

To: Perez, David A. (SEA) < DPerez@perkinscoie.com >; Mertens, Matthew (POR)

<MMertens@perkinscoie.com>; Trambley, Lauren (SFO) <LTrambley@perkinscoie.com>

Cc: Ted Buck <tbuck@freybuck.com>; Mark Conrad <mconrad@freybuck.com>; Lauren English

<lenglish@freybuck.com>; Kristofer Riklis <kristofer@riklislaw.com>

Subject: Hadnagy, et al. v. Moss, et al.

All:

Attached, please find the Notice of Videotaped Deposition of Jeff Moss. We will work with your office to coordinate a date.

Thank you.

Amber

Amber Holmes <image001.jpg> 1200 Fifth Avenue, Ste. 1900 Seattle, WA 98101 (206) 487-3020 aholmes@freybuck.com www.freybuck.com

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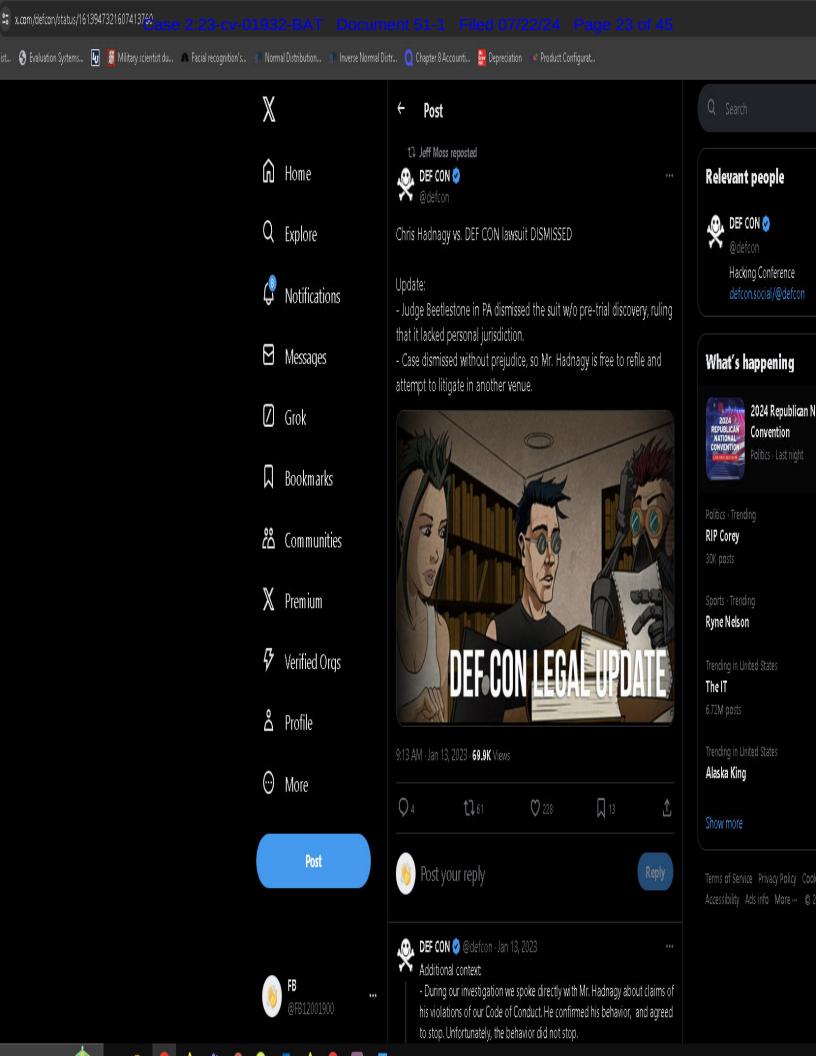
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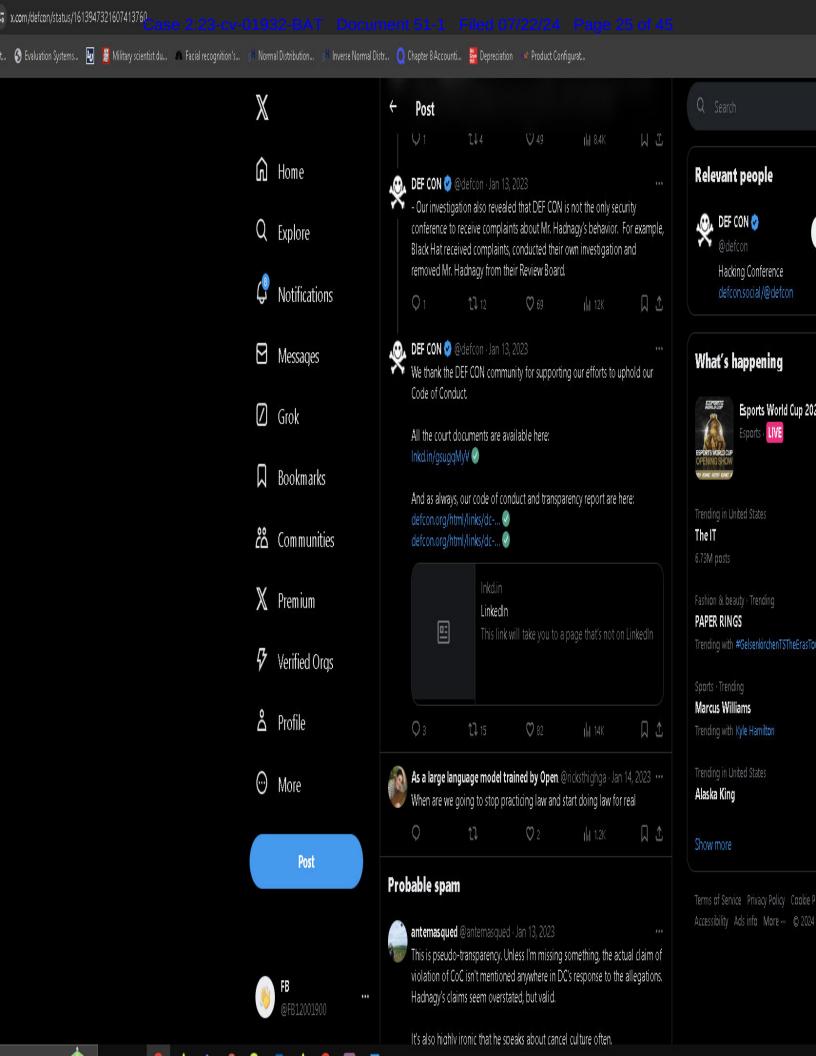
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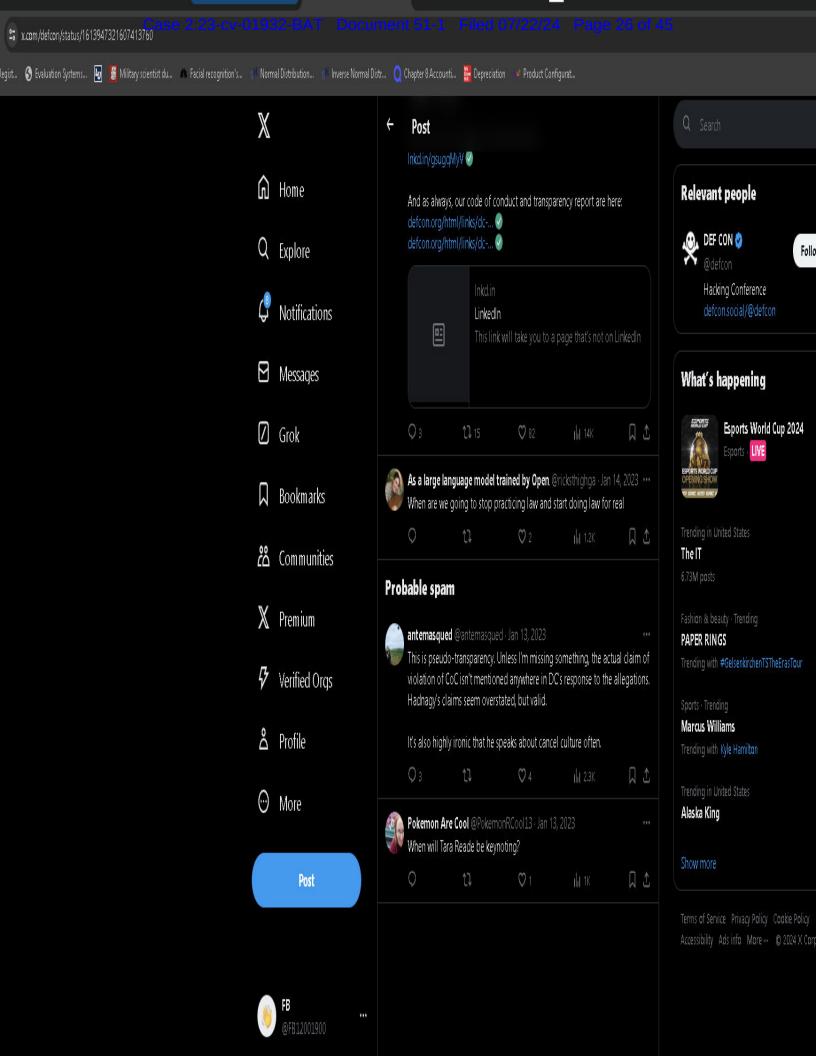
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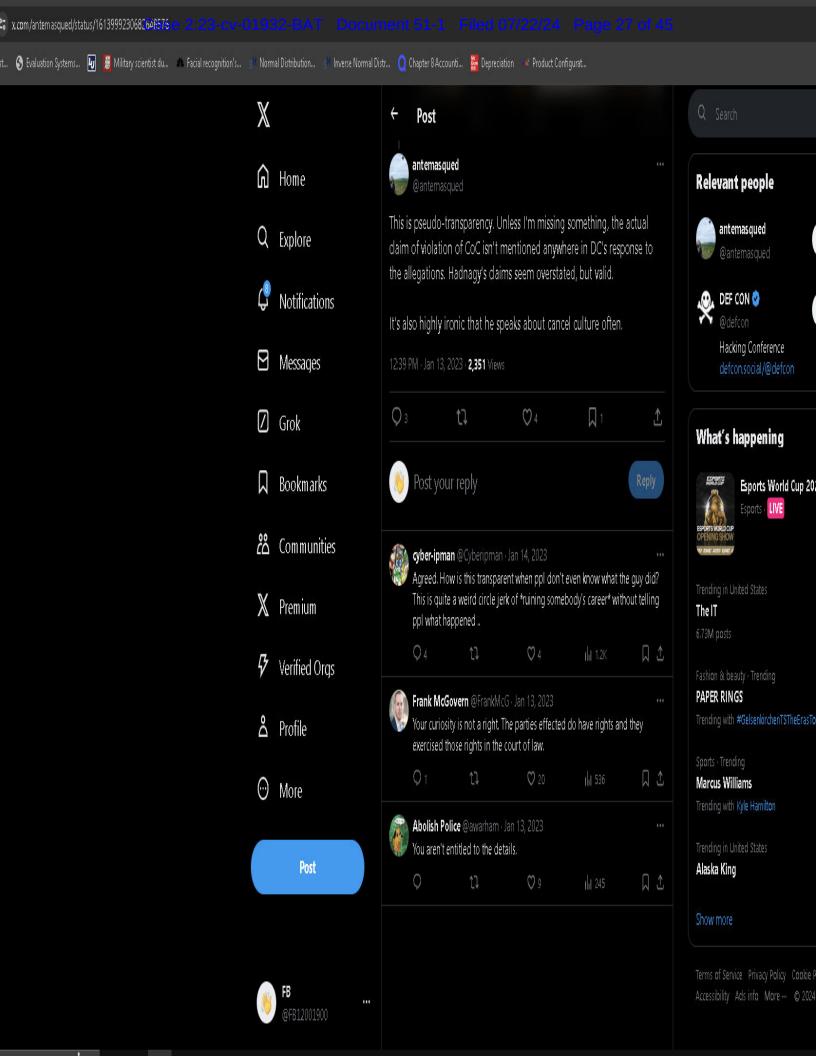
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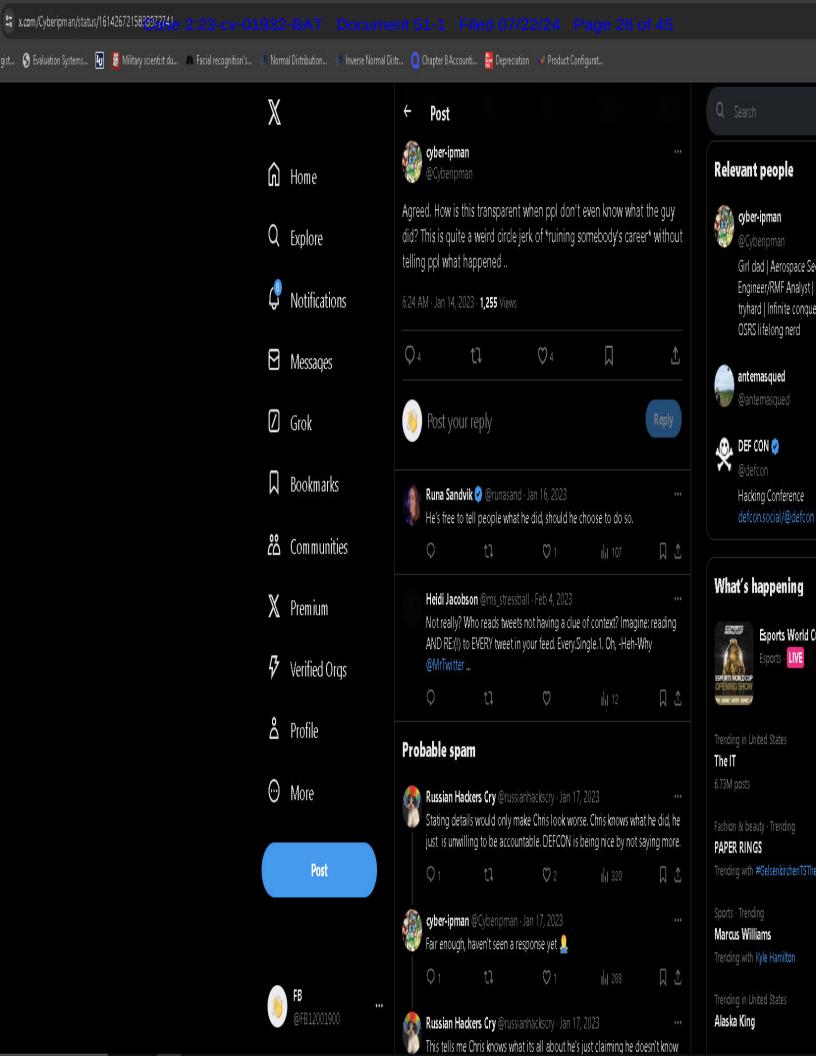
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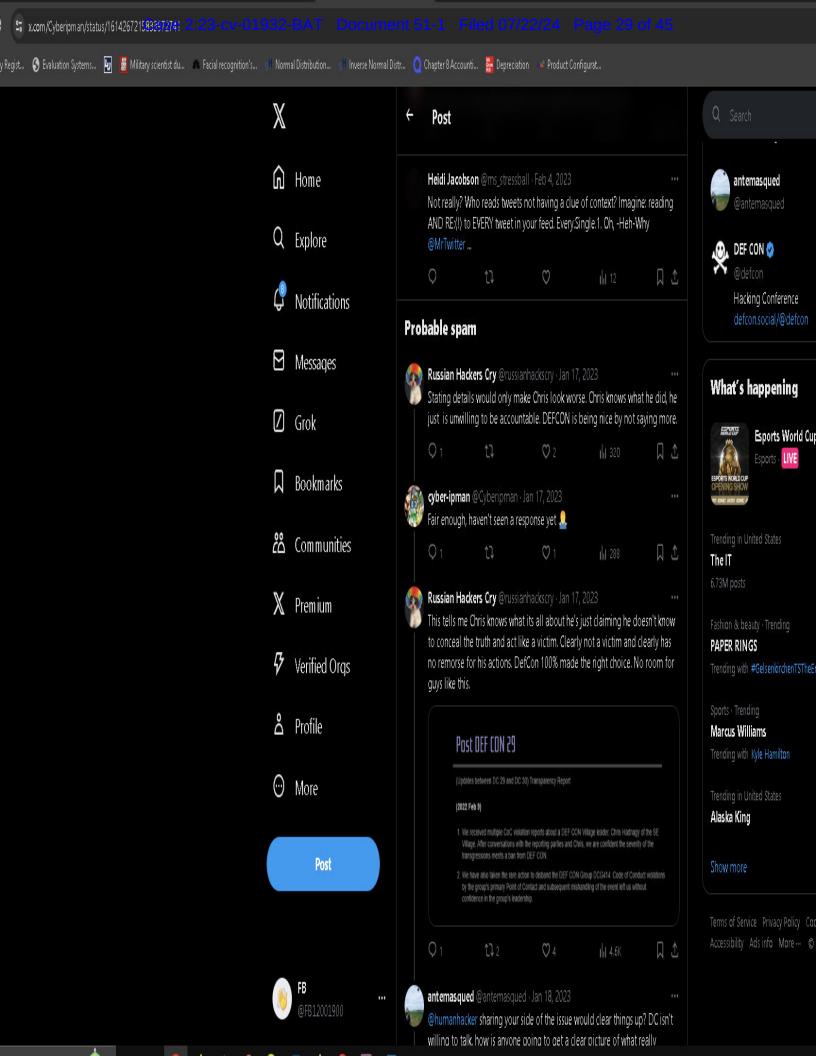


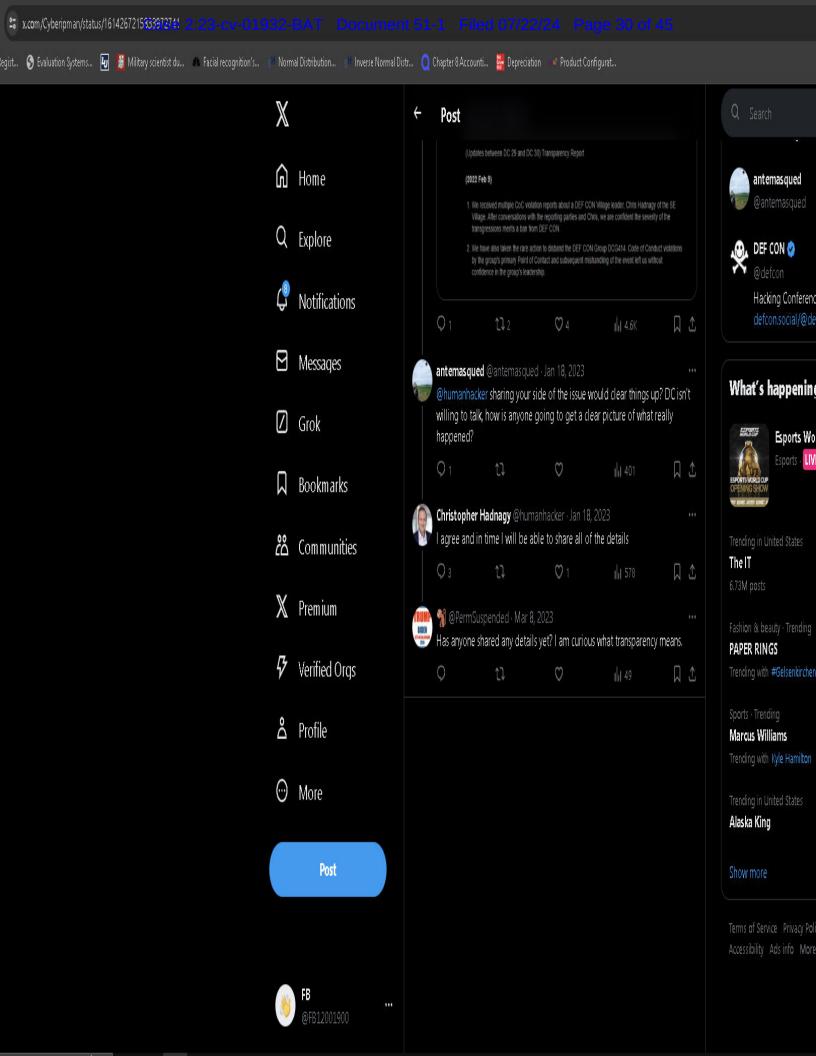


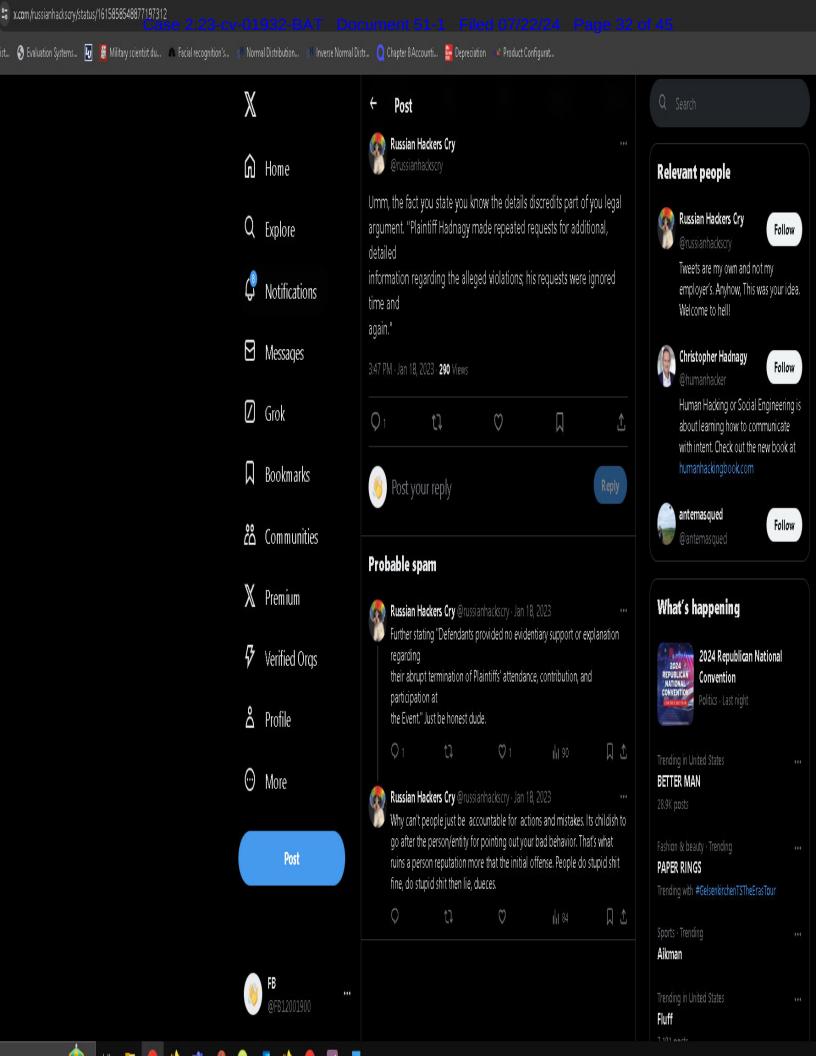














Chris Hadnagy Sues DEF CON (Again) Lawsuit Update

In the spirit of transparency here is what's been going on: On the first day of DEF CON 31 Christopher Hadnagy filed a new lawsuit, not to be confused with the lawsuit he filed on the first day of DEF CON 30.

After losing the DC 30 lawsuit for lack of jurisdiction (DEF CON is not a Pennsylvania company) Chris filed again, this time in Las Vegas. (DEF CON is not a Nevada corporation)

Here is the story so far:

- Chris filed his new lawsuit in Nevada, requesting damages for mentioning him in our Transparency Report and requested a jury trial.
- We respond that he picked the wrong jurisdiction and the wrong court again.
- We want to transfer the case to the Western District of Washington where DEF CON is incorporated.
- Chris doesn't want to move it.
- Both sides make their arguments.
- The Court agrees with DEF CON as an early XMas present, the case is moved out of Nevada to Washington.
- We expect the first day of DEF CON 32 to kick off with another new lawsuit.

Happy New Year

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The Court agrees with DEF CON as an early XMas present, the case is moved out of Nevada to Washington.

The Court agrees with DEF CON as an early XMas present, the case is moved out of Nevada to Washington.

Reading between the lines and having successfully argued several 1404 motions to transfer, I'm going to tell you that the judge just didn't want to deal with it and was given an easy out. I have no clue how she made this ruling without anyone filing Rule 26 disclosures, which appeared to be very overdue by time the motion was argued. It seems premature given that the greatest factor across the circuits tends to be convenience of witnesses.

Anyway, defamation cases are absurdly hard to get out of on summary judgment and given that you haven't even started discovery (and these posts are certainly discoverable and you will be asked to provide them), you may want to refrain from posting about it until it's resolved.





2 more replies

Stylux • 6mo ago

I'm sorry you have to deal with this bullshit, Jeff. Hopefully you can take some solace in the fact that Hadnagy is repeatedly hitting himself in the face with the Streisand Effect.

介15 乃 口 Reply Q Award 介 Share

itsabuyereconomy • 6mo ago

The legal dance with DEF CON continues. Hadnagy's persistent lawsuits, now shifting jurisdictions, keep the drama alive. Moving the case from Nevada to Washington adds an interesting twist. Happy New Year!

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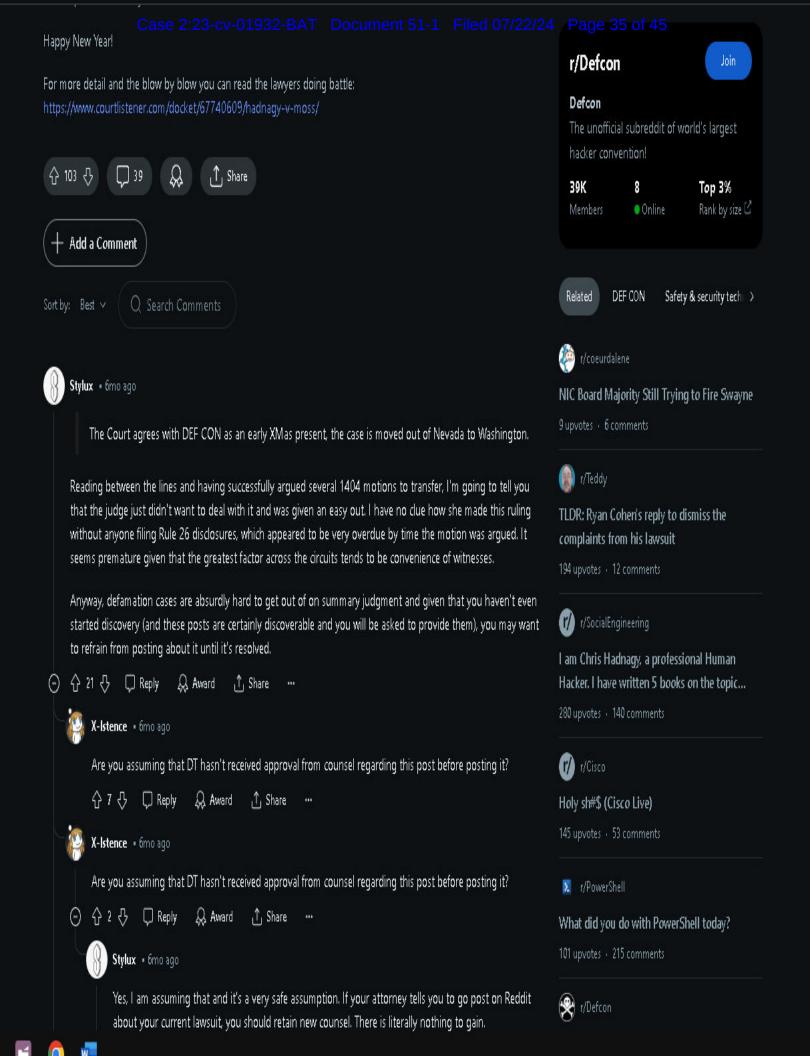
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🔀 r/PowerShell

What did you do with PowerShell today?





Single comment thread

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thesharpOne • 6mo ago

Disclaimer: I know nothing about defamation law/civil lawsuits in general and I'm asking out of legit educational curiosity:

How does this post hurt them in court? DT isn't making an continuing alleged defaming statements, just simple facts. I would also think that continuing to be transparent with their community about this helps in that they can show a court they were not defaming him but simply providing transparency as they always have and continue to do.

Like I know the gut reaction is "don't talk about any lawsuit/criminal case you're involved in" and in most cases probably the safest option, but yeah I would expect DT is smart enough to clear this post with counsel.





介1長 □ Reply 및 Award





How does this post hurt them in court? DT isn't making an continuing alleged defaming statements, just simple facts.

Because during his eight hour deposition, an enterprising attorney may ask him a relatively innocuous question during hour six like, "Have you posted about this lawsuit on social media?" The answer to that question is yes; however, OP might not remember making this post two years from now. If OP says no, then it becomes something to impeach him with at trial. If he says yes, then you get into every social media post he made and why he made it. That kind of gets to your next point.

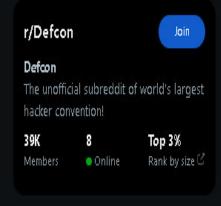
If counsel asks, "Why did you make this post?" and OP says something like, "to be transparent to the community about what was going on" - then it's open season. The gravamen of this lawsuit is basically that Plaintiff was banned and nobody told him or anyone else why. If Plaintiff's position is assumed to be true, the only people who had been banned previously were blacklisted for sexually egregious/criminal reasons. If I were prosecuting this case (I wouldn't, I'm solely a civil defense attorney) I would then ask why they didn't, "for the sake of transparency", ever tell anyone the reason for the ban. Then I would ask something like this:

"So you were well apprised of the allegations made by my client in this lawsuit and you actually posted about the procedural posture of this current action as well as the past action, correct?"

Now, if he says no he looks like a liar. If he says yes, then the next question is naturally, "So you could have been transparent in these social media/Reddit posts, but again, you chose not to just clear the air correct?" Have fun getting out of that one without looking shady.

Like I know the gut reaction is "don't talk about any lawsuit/criminal case you're involved in" and in most cases probably the safest option, but yeah I would expect DT is smart enough to clear this post with counsel.

It's the only option in my opinion. I've tried cases with press involvement, and your answer should





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I am Chris Hadnagy, a professional Human Hacker. I have written 5 books on the to...

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r/PowerShell

What did you do with PowerShell today?

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I passed my CISSP and I don't think any of my advice is all that great.

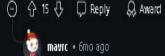
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Now, if he says no he looks like a liar. If he says yes, then the next question is naturally, "So you could have been transparent in these social media/Reddit posts, but again, you chose not to just clear the air correct?" Have fun getting out of that one without looking shady.

Like I know the gut reaction is "don't talk about any lawsuit/criminal case you're involved in" and in most cases probably the safest option, but yeah I would expect DT is smart enough to clear this post with counsel.

It's the only option in my opinion. I've tried cases with press involvement, and your answer should always just be "no comment" or "we will see what happens in front of a jury." People who try cases "in the court of public opinion" usually have nothing else to fall back on and social media posts about an incident fall under that umbrella in my opinion. I've also represented very clever people and sometimes they can't help but step on their own dick because god forbid they not be the smartest guy in the room. I tell every client I represent to just shut up about the case until it's done - because opposing counsel will ask for, and is entitled to, all public/non-privileged posts, messages, etc.

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Appreciate this.

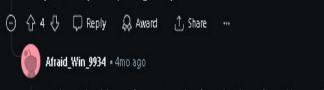
If I might defend them a bit, there's definitely a lot of internal drama in the community about this case, for a whole variety of reasons, but mostly because DEF CON is a popular target for hate and because particularly vocal members of the hacking community do not like codes of conduct or being told what to do - especially when the goal is to keep everyone safe. Refusing to acknowledge the effects that individuals can have on community is one of the darkest parts of the scene.

DEF CON as an org has also really leaned into the idea of "transparency" reports, which is to say, releasing the information that the org thinks the community needs as, essentially, a moral imperative.

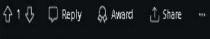
This being one of the only messages about the case that have been shared, I'm guessing it's mostly the transparency piece but also a bit to rally some community support about something a lot of us weren't really that aware of.

But I don't really know nothin'. Just guessing.

And yeah, it may end up being a very bad idea. But time will tell.



And can/should a conference's code of conduct be enforced in a workplace disagreement?



3 more replies.

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Hadnagy v. Moss Nov 2023 update

4 comments



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captain_obvious_here • 6mo ago	145 upvotes + 53 comments
Captain_obilious_nete = oino ogo	∑ r/PowerShell
 Chris filed his new lawsuit in Nevada, requesting damages for mentioning him in our Transparency Report and requested a jury trial. 	What did you do with PowerShell today?
indisporting report and requested a july andii	101 upvotes + 215 comments
I'm completely out of the loop here. Can anyone ELI5 this or point me to said <i>Transparency Report</i> please?	r/cissp
分 5 ⇩ □ Reply □ Award ① Share …	I passed my CISSP and I don't think any o
aelwell • 6mo ago	my advice is all that great.
https://defcon.org/html/links/dc-transparency.html Scroll down to "Post Def Con 29". Also Verge and TechTarget have articles about the situation if you google.	182 upvotes · 43 comments
Basically, the con says they received reports of Chris breaking the Code of Conduct so they banned him.	v/cissp
Chris says there were no legitimate reports and they only banned him because they wanted someone new in charge of SE village.	l did it? 118 upvotes + 30 comments
riew in charge of SE Village. ☆ 14 ⇩ □ Reply 및 Award ① Share …	
	r/coeurdalene
● 5 more replies	NIC Board Majority Still Trying to Fire Swayne
jrobber912 • 6mo ago	9 upvotes + 6 comments
What exactly did Chris do to get banned?	

https://defcon.org/html/links/dc-transparency.html Scroll down to "Post Def Con 29". Also Verge and TechTarget have articles about the situation if you google.

Basically, the con says they received reports of Chris breaking the Code of Conduct so they banned him. Chris says there were no legitimate reports and they only banned him because they wanted someone new in charge of SE village.

○ ☆ 14 ⇩ □ Reply 및 Award ☆ Share …

🧽 captain_obvious_here 🔹 6mo ago

Thanks a lot for your great answer!

netrunnernobody • 6mo ago

Chris says there were no legitimate reports and they only banned him because they wanted someone new in charge of SE village.

Doesn't Defcon have the right to choose who can and who can't come to their events? What's he actually suing over?

○ 分 2 艮 □ Reply Q Award ① Share …

Afraid_Win_9934 • 4mo ago

Here's a theoretical question for you. You're a business owner who attends a conference. That conference has banned four people in the past for being a convicted sex offender. No one else has been banned by name. Only the sex offenders. Then one day, that conference says you, u/netrunnernobody is the fifth person to be banned by name. The conference doesn't say anything more other than it's just a code of conduct violation, but you're on that list with four sex offenders. When you ask for the reasoning to be released, the conference responds with nothing.

What's the community going to think? Will your customers want to be associated with you? What will happen to your business? Should you have any recourse to that at all?

Now, is Hadnagy a convicted sex offender? No. Does he have sexual assault allegations against him? Not in the Defcon legal filings. If we read the filings, Defcon alleges that the complaints come from a former employee with a workplace complaint. It isn't even anything that occurred at Defcon, according to the filings.

One thing that I'm wondering is whether the CoC is in effect for workplace disagreements that do not happen at Defcon or are not affiliated with Defcon in any way. Based on what we see in the court documents, it seems that way.

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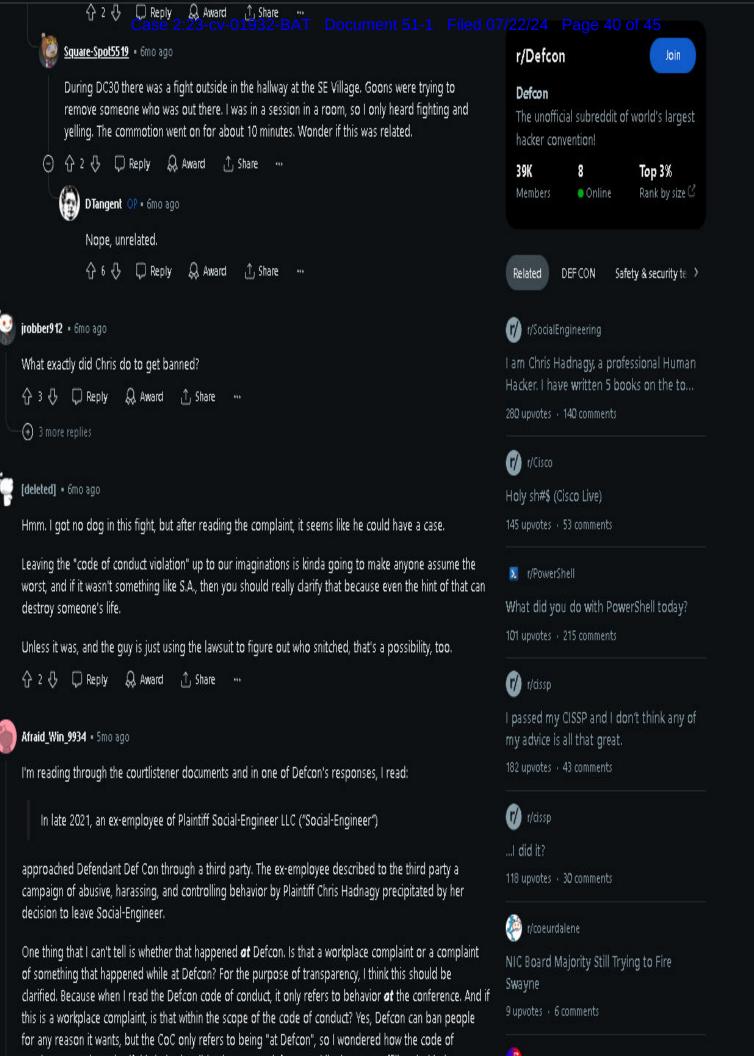
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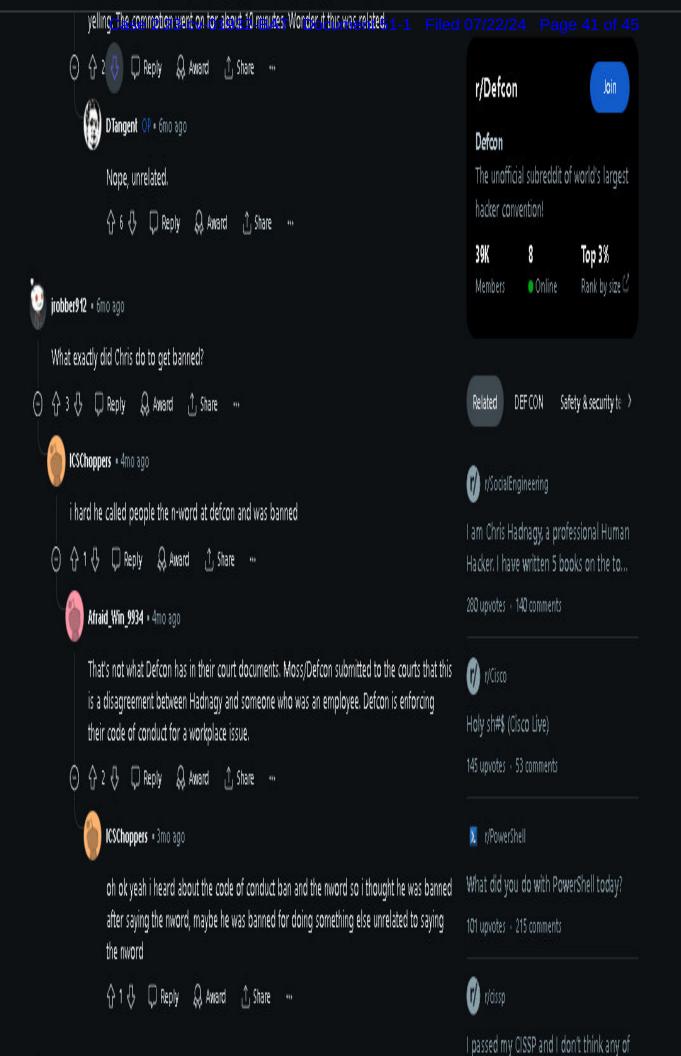


r/coeurdalene

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of something that happened while at Lierson. For the purpose of transparency of think this should be 07/22/24 Page 42 of 45

clarified. Because when I read the Defcon code of conduct, it only refers to behavior **ot** the conference. And if this is a workplace complaint, is that within the scope of the code of conduct? Yes, Defcon can ban people for any reason it wants, but the CoC only refers to being "at Defcon", so I wondered how the code of conduct comes into play if this behavior didn't happen at defcon or while they were affiliated with the conference.

Also, who is the "third party" that spoke to Hadnagy? I thought Jeff has previously said he spoke with Hadnagy, but this legal document just refers to a third party. Was that Jeff? Was it a Defcon lawyer? Was it just a friend of Jeff? We certainly have no right to know who the victims are/were here, but it doesn't sound like the third party person is one of the victims, so who was the third party person? I'm hoping that u/DTangent can help to clarify for transparency.



PNWCyberSecCurious • 4mo ago

DefCon filed their motion to dismiss on 18 January. It was mainly a re-hash of arguments made in the Pennsylvania case and in the Nevada case before it was transferred. The arguments were successful before so why change I guess? (I don't know that for sure as I am not a lawyer but that's what I would be thinking).

Hadnagy filed their response yesterday. Again the arguments are mostly the same about why they stated a claim and the claims are proper. Hadnagy has a new lawyer and this one seems a bit more aggressive and on the ball. Some interesting things:

1. The timeline changed a bit -

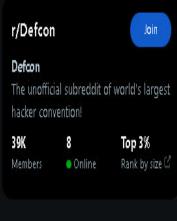
In August of 2021, the Event was held in hybrid form due to COVID restrictions, and Plaintiffs attended virtually. Id. 17151, 64. Approximately one month later, Hadnagy discovered that Moss was considering false and disparaging allegations allegedly regarding Plaintiffs' separate business endeavors; Hadnagy discerned this effort arose from his effort to secure his third party nonprofits' confidential information. Id. 17153, 64.

From September 2021 through January of 2022, Hadnagy sent Moss multiple messages attempting to schedule a meeting to discuss these false allegations, but Moss refused to meet and it became clear Defendants would not offer Plaintiffs access to the Event. Id. ¶ 53-55. Accordingly, on January 22, 2022, Plaintiffs notified Defendants that they would be hosting the SEVillage at another location and not participating in the Event. Id. ¶ 56.

On February 9, 2022, Defendants issued a false and defamatory assertions against Plaintiffs, citing severe violations of the Event's code of conduct (the, "Code of Conduct") and banning them, despite the fact that Plaintiffs did not participate in the Event. Id. ¶ 58. See Motion, Exhibit 1.

To me this looks bad for Hadnagy, but again I am not a lawyer so maybe this is normal back and forth in filings, but it looks like he was hiding things.

The filing accuses Moss of intentionally smearing Hadnagy by calling him a racist and and saying he is sexually discriminatory at work and repeating these rumors to multiple conferences. This is new, I



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- 2. The filing accuses Moss of intentionally smearing Hadnagy by calling him a racist and and saying he is sexually discriminatory at work and repeating these rumors to multiple conferences. This is new, I haven't seen this accusation before.
- 2a. Still no details on the origin of the ban, but based on past statements that it started as a workplace dispute with a former employee and this statement contained in the current filing:

The Complaint alleges that Mr. Moss spread additional Injurious Falsehoods to Black Hat, including that Plaintiffs' employment practices were racially discriminatory and that Mr. Hadnagy fosters a hostile work environment based on gender, Id. ¶ 76.

I am going to guess Hadnagy was accused of racism and sexual harassment.

3. There is a little more detail on the loss of business Hadnagy alleges occurred because of the ban. Not a lot but a bit. Again I am not a lawyer so maybe this is normal and the rest comes out in discovery, but if I was a judge I would want more detail.

I think that catches everything up. There are some more interesting things but nothing major. I think Defcon has to respond to this by next Friday, but I might be wrong.

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Afraid_Win_9934 • 4mo ago

To me this looks bad for Hadnagy

Why? What you had above shows that Hadnagy was trying to get a meeting with Moss, but Moss refused. This is different from what Moss has claimed. Moss claimed that Defcon met with Hadnagy. My question is "who" from Defcon met with Hadnagy? Was it Moss himself? Was it Defcon's lawyers? This should be easy for u/Dtangent to answer in the spirit of transparency. Because if Hadnagy is claiming in the docs that he requested a meeting with Moss and Moss said that someone met with Hadnagy, those claims are not lining up.

it started as a workplace dispute with a former employee

Is that within scope for the Defcon code of conduct? In your post, it still sounds like none of this happened AT Defcon or had anything to do with Defcon. I haven't seen anything that even references any of Hadnagy's behavior at Defcon. So the question for u/DTangent, was Hadnagy's violation at Defcon? Or is Defcon now enforcing its code of conduct for behavior on people's actions outside of and unrelated to Defcon? This is a pretty big distinction. Are all potential attendees subject to Defcon's code of conduct 24/7/365?



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PNWCyberSecCurious • 4mo ago

It looks bad to me because previously Hadnagy has claimed he had no idea why he was banned. I could be mis or overreading this, but it just struck me as a pretty major change in the story.

I think your other questions are reasonable and I still disagree with the way the ban was originally announced and how speculation was allowed to spin out of control.

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PNWCyberSecCurious • 4mo ago	Defcon The unofficial subreddit of world's largest
It looks bad to me because previously Hadnagy has claimed he had no idea why he was banned. I could be mis or overreading this, but it just struck me as a pretty major change in the story.	hacker convention! 39K 11 Top 3%
I think your other questions are reasonable and I still disagree with the way the ban was originally announced and how speculation was allowed to spin out of control.	Members ● Online Rank by size C
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Afraid_Win_9934 • 4mo ago	
I guess I'm still not sure. There can be a huge difference between "we have accusations of you being	
harassing to employees" and knowing what the ban was for. And there was information in one of Defcon's legal filings that included some of that information, that this is about a workplace dispute. Was	Holy sh#\$ (Cisco Live)
that information given to Hadnagy up front when *someone (Moss hasn't said who it was) originally talked with Hadnagy? I have no idea.	145 upvotes + 53 comments
	y r/SocialEngineering
It is also interesting that like you say, "speculation was allowed to spin out of control." as that does seem to be the case. Like you've also said, I'm no lawyer either, but if you create an environment where	l am Chris Hadnagy, a professional Human
a situation spins out of control, and you had the ability to quell it and didn't? That sure doesn't seem	Hacker. I have written 5 books on the to
good. I mean, we don't let people shout fire in a crowded theater. There's nothing harmful that comes	280 upvotes + 140 comments
from shouting that. The harm comes from the reaction of everyone in the room, but we put the blame on the person who yelled it. This is Defcon shouting fire and then saying "I had no idea people were	r/PowerShell r/PowerShell
going to all trample each other. We have no control over that, not our fault."	What did you do with PowerShell today?
And if this is just for a workplace disagreement? I find it interesting that u/DTangent hasn't said who from Defcon had the conversation with Hadnagy.	101 upvotes • 215 comments
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PNWCyberSecCurious • 4mo ago	I passed my CISSP and I don't think any of
	my advice is all that great.
Defcon has replied in the motion to dismiss. Again it seems to be a rehash of the Pennsylvania arguments. I guess we'll see what happens in a few weeks.	182 upvotes + 43 comments
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Afraid_Win_9934 • 4mo ago	NIC Board Majority Still Trying to Fire Swayne
	9 upvotes + 6 comments
So Pennsylvania is no good because Defcon has nothing to do with it. Nevada is no good because Defcon is only there a couple days a year. Now Washington is no goodbecause	
Defcon isn't there, in spite of being Moss's home address? I don't get it. If you're going to	√ r/cissp
fight against venue, there should be a point where you gotta say which jurisdiction you won't	l did it?

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fight and let it get to the perceived merits of the case.